

**GE**  
Transportation

# **Aftertreatment**

Impact to locomotives &  
locomotive operations

California Air Resources Board  
Sacramento, CA  
June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2007



# Discussion topics

- **Where we are & where are we going**
- **Tier 4 PM**
- **Tier 4 NOx**
- **Space & other constraints**
- **Operational impact**
- **Development requirements**
- **Summary**

# Discussion topics

## → **Where we are & where are we going**

⇒ Tier 4 PM

⇒ Tier 4 NOx

⇒ Space & other constraints

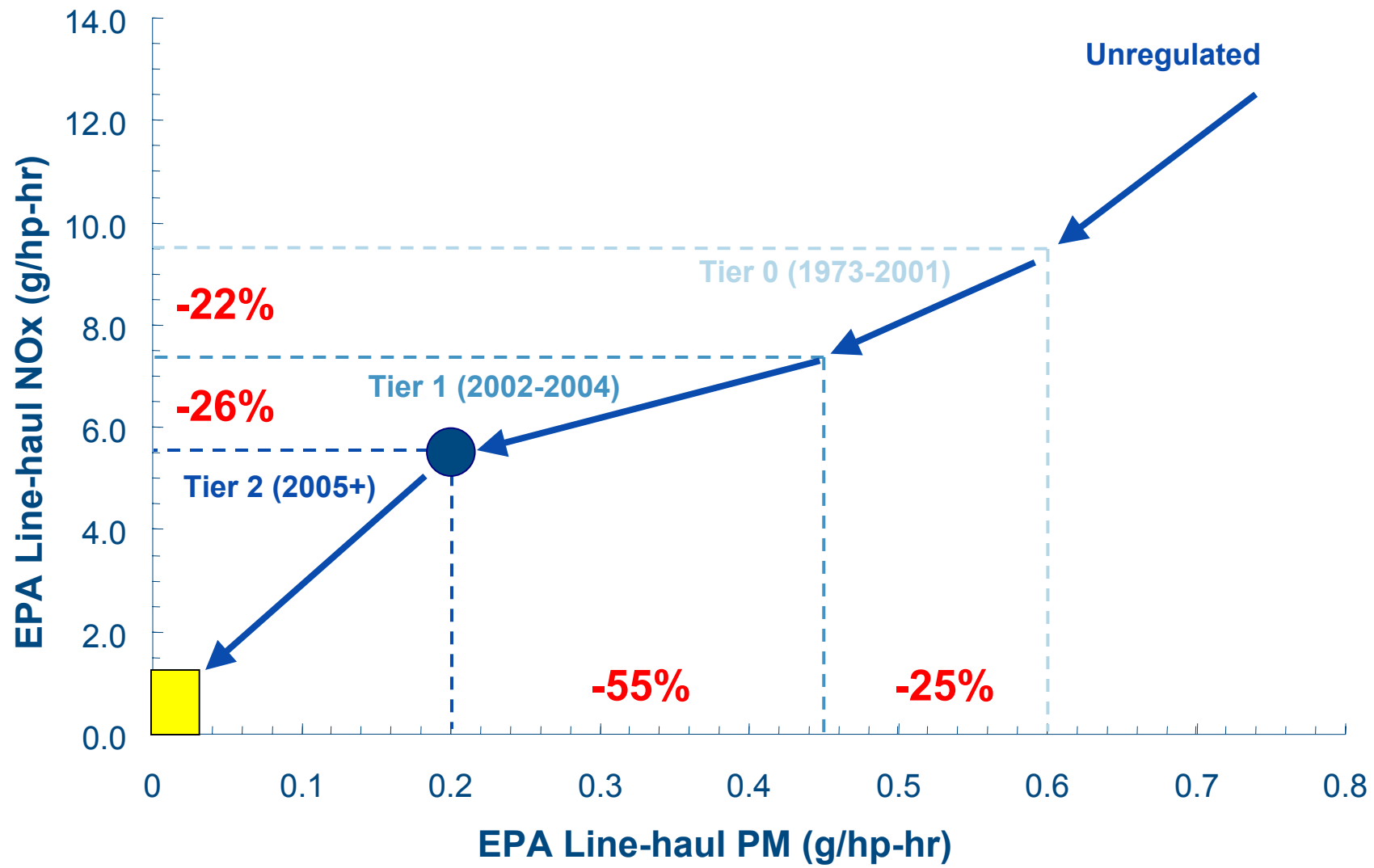
⇒ Operational impact

⇒ Development requirements

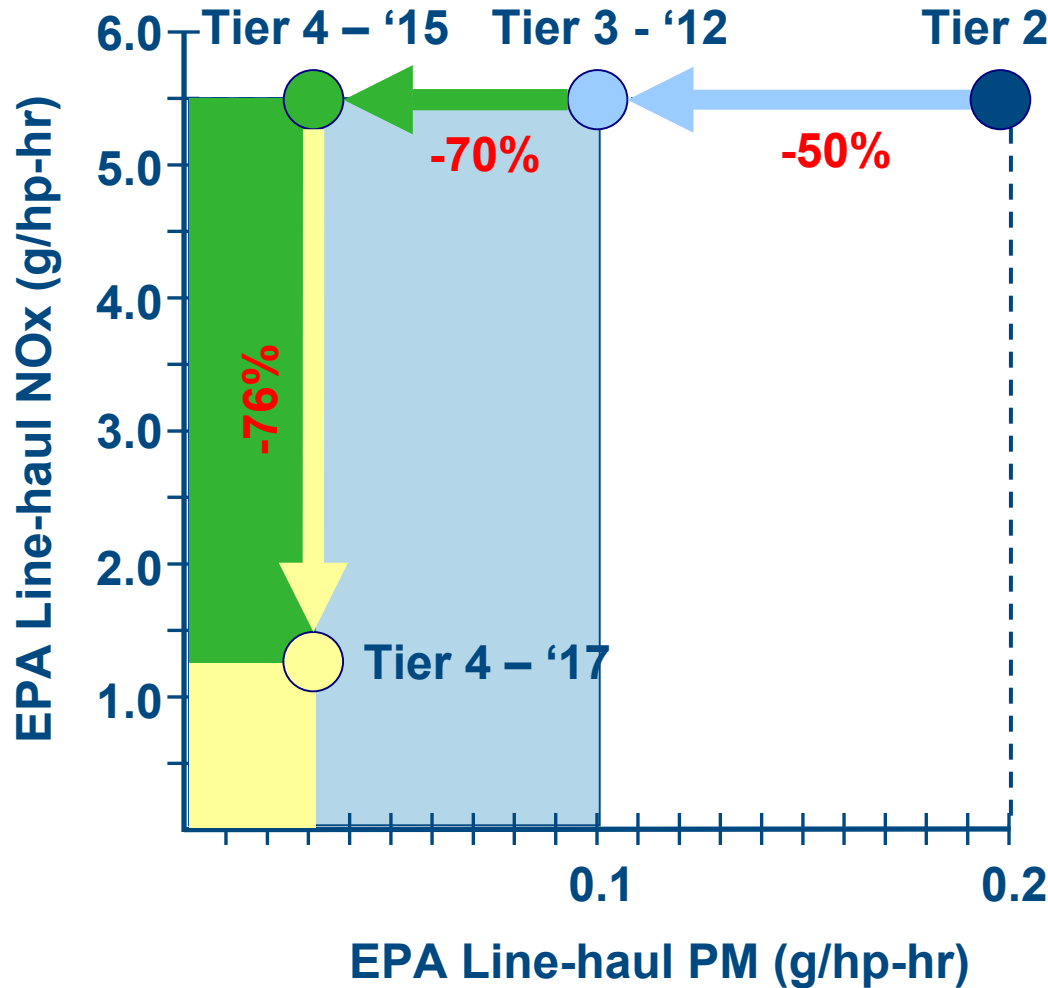
⇒ Summary



# Where we have come from



# Where we are going



## Tier Technology

- 3
- On-engine technologies
  - Ultra low sulfur diesel

- 4
- All Tier 3 technology
  - Diesel particulate filter (DPF)
  - Ultra low sulfur diesel

- 4
- All Tier 4 PM technology
  - NOx aftertreatment (Urea SCR)
  - Ultra low sulfur diesel

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## → Tier 4 PM

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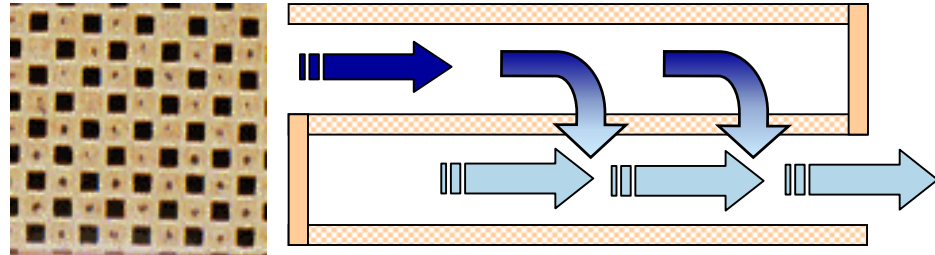
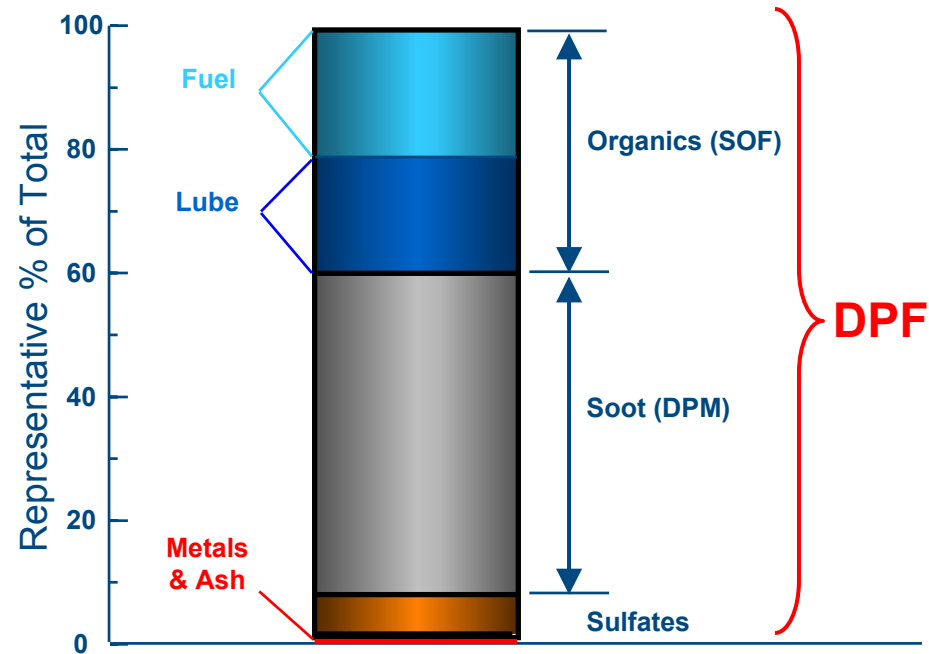
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# Diesel Particulate Filter

- Captures all forms of particulate matter
- 90+% PM reductions are achievable
- Captured material must be periodically burned off (regenerated)
  - Avoid high back pressure
  - SFC penalty
- Technology path defined
- Significant engineering challenge
- Logistics/handling challenges:
  - Size/weight/handling equipment
  - May require crane for change out



# PM Aftertreatment Concerns

## Consumables:

- 1 to 2 % SFC increase . . . 35 – 70 tons/year of CO<sub>2</sub>
  - added backpressure
  - regeneration energy

## Maintenance:

- Ash cleaning every 180 days a must to match service intervals
  - Similar to power cylinder replacement (will require crane)
  - UX exchange process
  - Waste handling & disposal

## Durability:

- Anticipate replacement of DPF at end of useful life (engine overhaul)

## Logistics:

- DPF maintenance, handling & exchange process
- Waste disposal



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# Tier 4 NOx: Areas of Concern

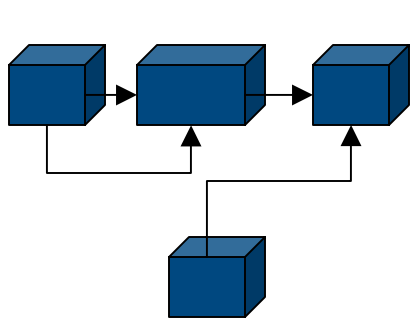
- No account for carbon, ammonia slip, fuel consumption and practical/safety implications
- Catalyst deterioration poorly known for zeolite, real exhaust, and loco environment
- References to truck “successes” are unproven in durability and degradation
- Marine/Loco proposals are not consistent

# Technical Basis:

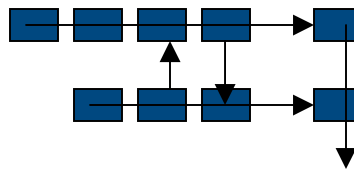
- Tier 2 engine-out NO<sub>x</sub> at 5.5g/hp-hr into SCR system
- Urea SCR only using a zeolite catalyst
- Locomotive exhaust temperature and duty cycle

## Assessment Process

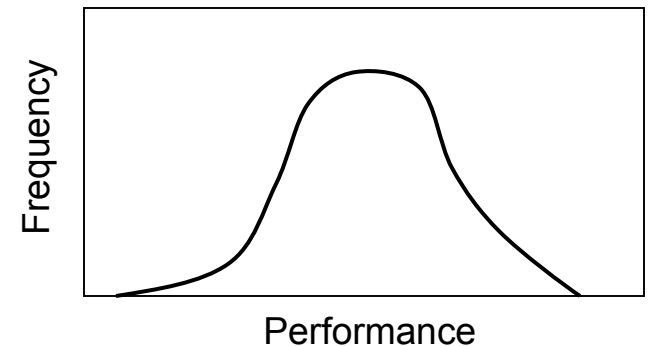
### 1. System Concept



### 2. Analytical Model

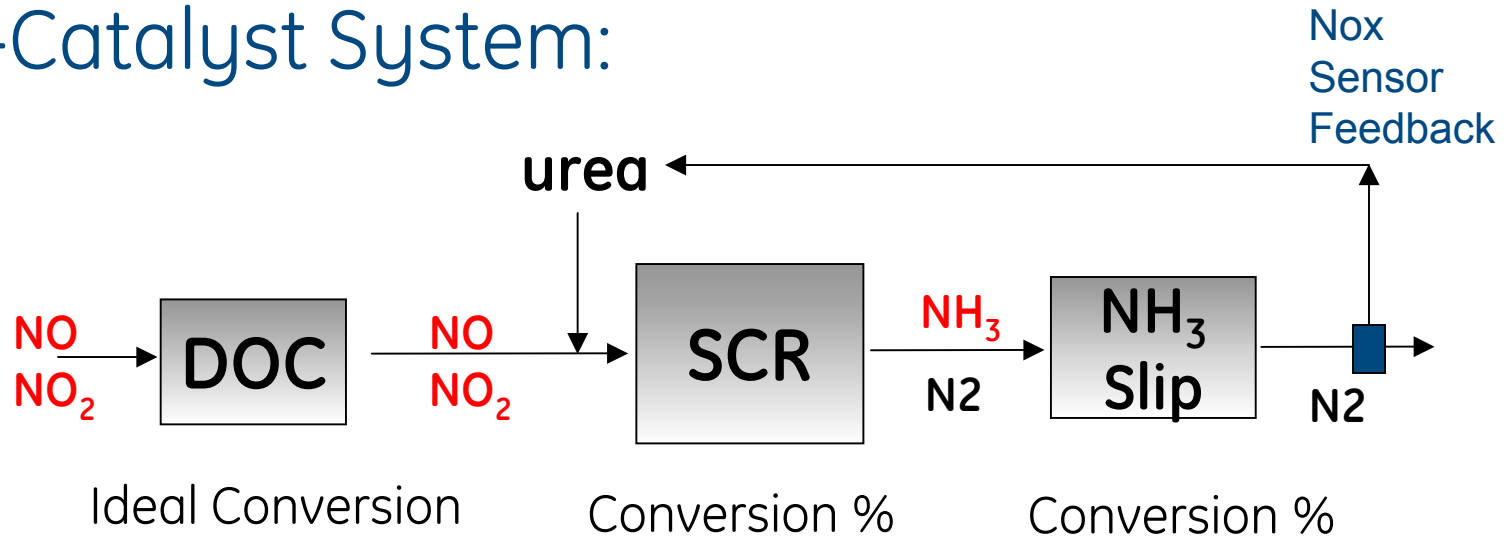


### 3. Monte Carlo Analysis



# Urea-SCR: Nominal System Configuration

## Three-Catalyst System:

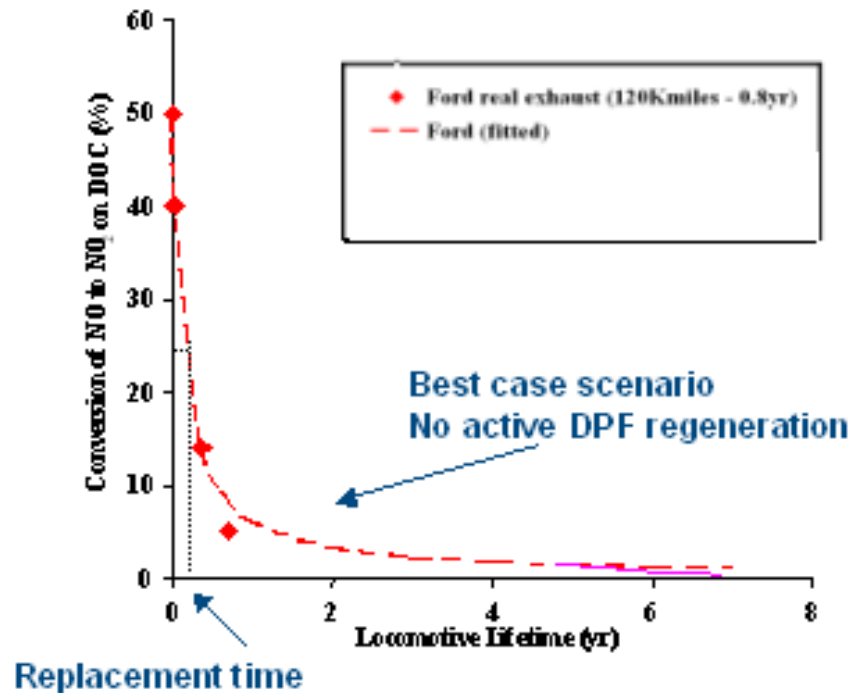


- DOC design provides optimum  $\text{NO}/\text{NO}_2$  ratio when new
- Slip catalyst converts  $\text{NH}_3$  to  $\text{N}_2$ , with some  $\text{NO}_x$  &  $\text{NH}_3$

- 1.3g/bhp-hr requires 76% duty cycle  $\text{NO}_x$  conversion at end of useful life
- Need ~85% peak conversion after degradation

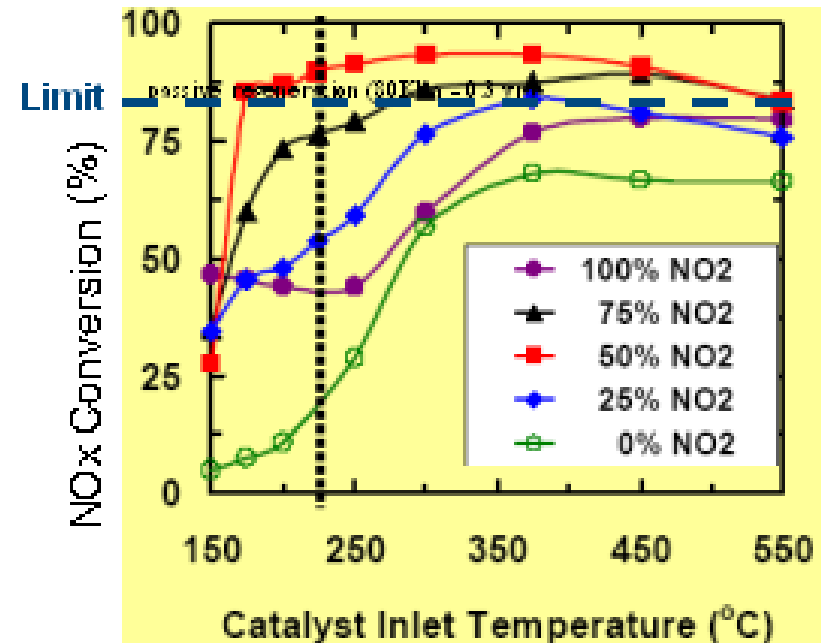
# Deterioration - DOC

## Deterioration under real exhaust



\*Ref. C. Lambert, CLEERS, 2006, DEER 2006  
SAE 2004-01-0072

## Effect on SCR Performance:

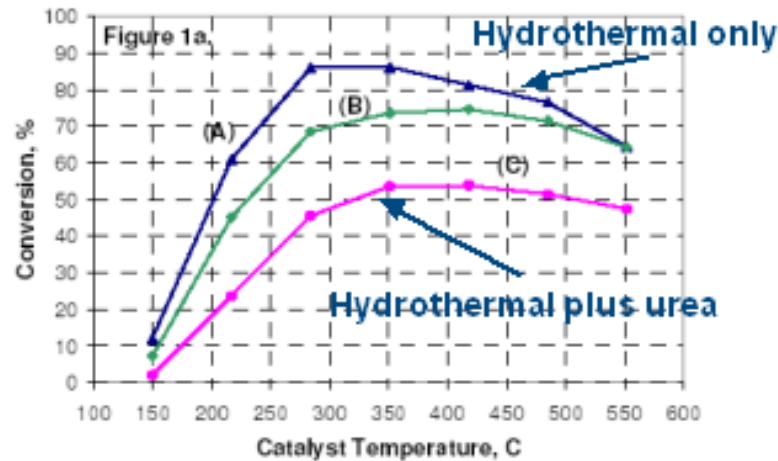


\*Ref. J.H. Lee, General Motors, CLEERS, 2006

**DOC will require replacement in <6 months**

# Deterioration - SCR

## Hydrothermal vs. Chemical Deactivation

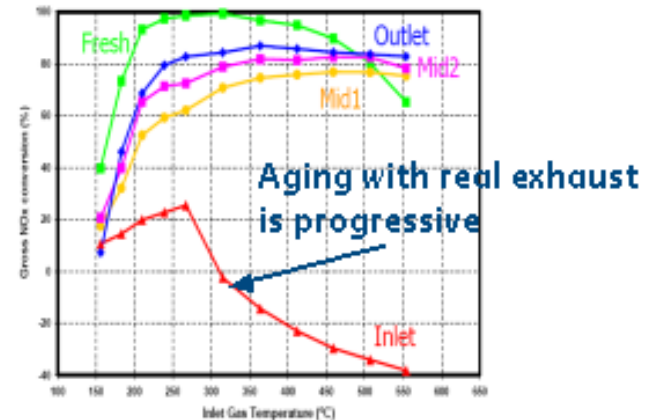


Ref. Ford & Pacific Northwest National Lab,  
North American Catalysis Society Meeting,  
Jun 2007, Session 4 Paper #50

“SCR catalysts that are engine aged with urea, deactivate in a more complicated manner than hydrothermal aging alone.”

Ref. SAE 07PFL-397 in press 2007

## Post Mortem of 120k mi SCR – Core#1 NO only and SV=30,000/hr



- 120k mi engine aging of SCR catalyst upstream of filter was non-uniform
- Outlet of engine aged SCR correlates well to the 64hr/670°C hydrothermal aging
- Inlet was most severely aged – work ongoing to understand

Ref. Ford, DEER 2006

1:1 doping ratio



# Deterioration – Ammonia Slip Catalyst

## Notch by notch dosing adjustment

Ref. BASF, SAE 2006-01-0640

- Deactivation of slip catalyst from 90% → 80% ammonia conversion
- Assume selectivity to nitrogen remains at 80% (zero degradation)
- Inlet NO<sub>x</sub> for locomotive > trucks → higher ammonia slip levels
- Transient ammonia slip > 50 ppm possible due to large catalyst mass
- Potential to form N<sub>2</sub>O due to NH<sub>3</sub> slip catalyst degradation
- Closed loop sensor needed – technology not available today

At 1.3 g/hp-hr, ammonia slip will be above the odor threshold

# Comparison of Loco and Trucks

- Exhaust temperature in a locomotive is higher than in a truck
- Trucks use V-based catalyst, not applicable to locomotives in US . . . Locomotives require Zeolite catalyst – *not commercially available*
- 120,000 miles on a truck is approximate 8 months of locomotive operation
- Ammonia slip concerns for locos
  - Continuous ammonia slip due to high dosing
  - Transient ammonia slip > 50 ppm possible due to large catalyst mass



# SCR Limitations

- Rate Limited (temperature)
- Mass Transfer Limited (catalyst size)
- NH<sub>3</sub> Limited (dosing accuracy & maldistribution)
- Thermal Aging / Poisoning (loss of sites)

# Summary Assessment of Tier 4 NOx

- New catalyst entitlement – consensus
- Larger impact of system interactions and variation
  - *Deterioration of catalysts*
  - *ASC reconversion of NOx*
  - *Concern for ammonia slip*
  - *Full probabilistic analysis of variation*
- High risk technology breakthroughs needed to get to <2.0 gm/HP-hr

Advances required
NOx Sensor accuracy
NOx Sensor variation
DOC catalyst replace
SCR degradation
SCR variation
ASC Selectivity
ASC conversion
Zeolite catalyst

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# General Aftertreatment Constraints

## Sensitive to Exhaust Temperature:

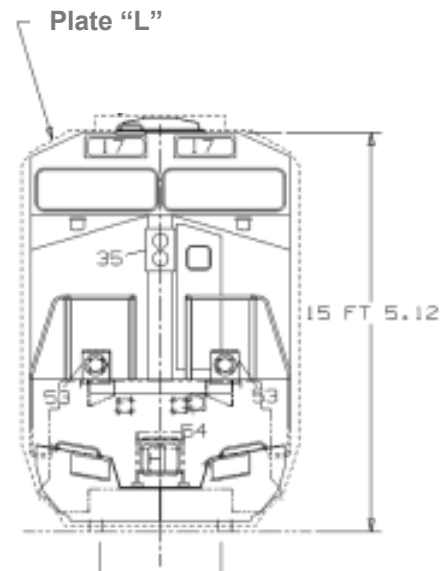
- Low temperature and low power/idle operation affects efficiency & soot loading
- High temperature, high altitude, tunnel operation affect durability

## Packaging/Weight:

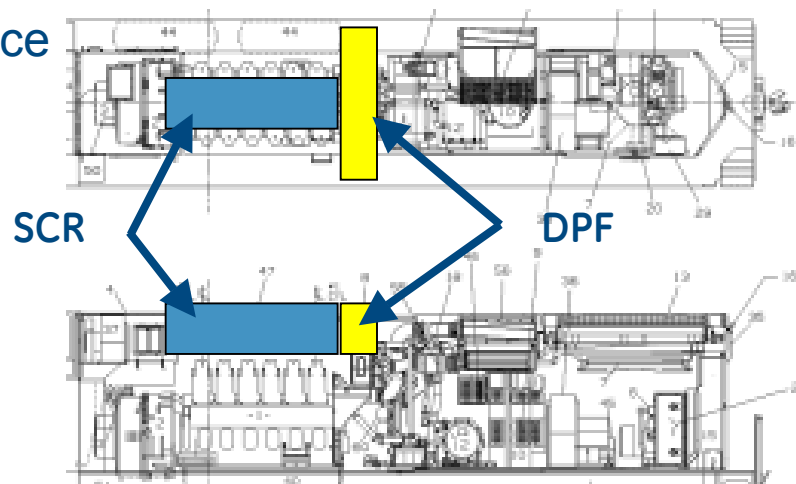
- Must mount above engine, limits device size and plumbing for reductant mixing
- High weight, will need significant structural support
- Impact to locomotive overall weight and balance

## Mechanical Environment:

- Large housing, response to operating frequencies & thermal stress
- Shock loads due to hard couples, effect on substrate durability



Plus, reductant handling system and storage



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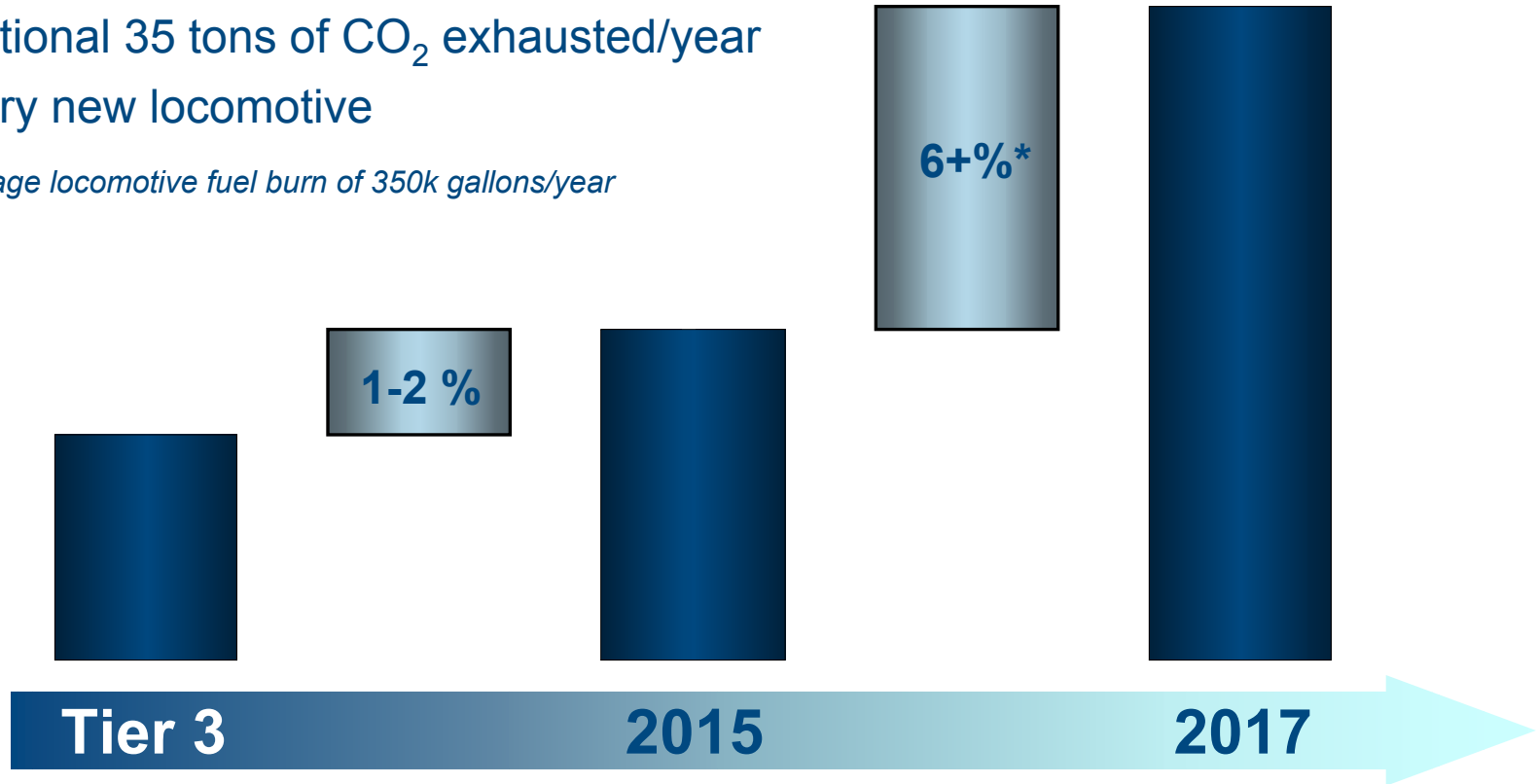


# Fuel impact . . . new builds

Each point of fuel efficiency loss drives:

- An additional 3,500 gallons of fuel burned/year
- An additional 35 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> exhausted/year
- For every new locomotive

*Assumes average locomotive fuel burn of 350k gallons/year*



\* Includes fuel loss from the reduction in catalyst efficiency

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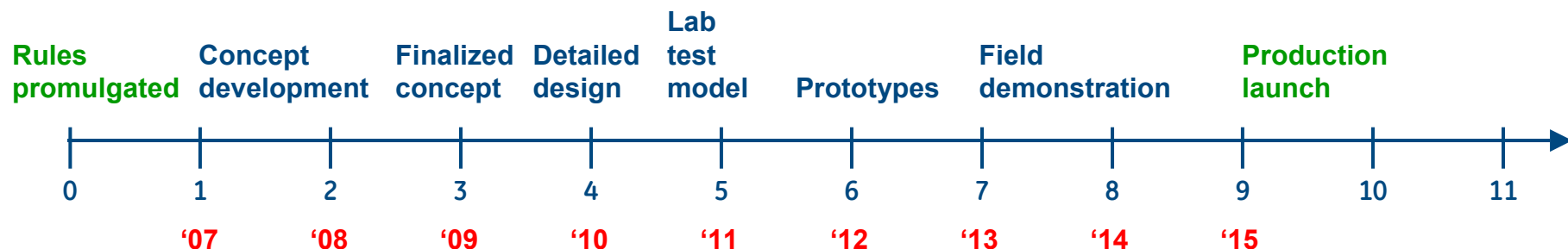
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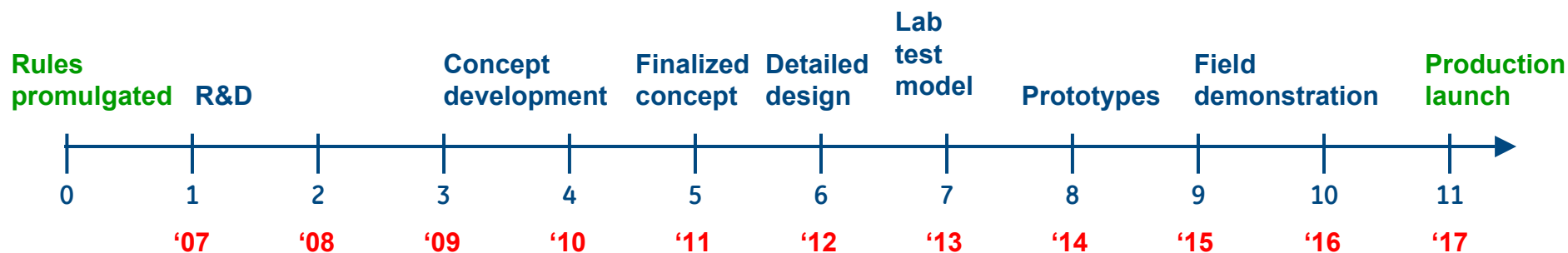


# Tier 4 development timeline

## Tier 4 PM



## Tier 4 NOx



Based on successful Evolution launch . . .

Already feeling schedule pressure



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